

The Federal Communications Commission

Dear The Federal Communications Commission,

I am a low-income consumer and I cannot afford to pay more for my telephone service!

I urge you to reject a flat fee proposal that would change how contributions are made to the Universal Service Fund. I am concerned that this proposal could make my current service unaffordable.

Under the flat fee proposal you are considering, people who make few long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls. Most of the consumer-funded services that I am aware of are funded in such a way that the high-volume users pay more into the system than the low-volume users. In the flat fee proposal the low volume users would pay an unfair share. Low-volume users are primarily low-income seniors and disabled persons and people in rural communities. I work with low-income seniors and the disabled and many of them don't have phone service now because it is unaffordable. Increasing their cost would make it even more unaffordable. This is unfair!

I use my wireless phone for safety, security and convenience. I don't want to lose these benefits so that big businesses can pay less than their fair share. I urge you to reject the proposal to move the USF collection system to a flat-fee.

Keep the USF Fair!

Sincerely,

Barbara Murfield
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